Welcome

ESG & Sustainability in Business

ESG practices, sustainability, and the evolving landscape of associated reporting standards









ESG SE SUSTAINABILITY IN BUSINESS









Regulatory Context

Global EU PARIS CLIMATE European **AGREEMENT Green Deal**

National







Climate Action Plan



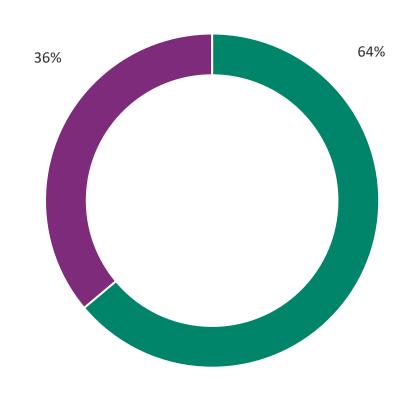
ROI - Sectoral Emissions Ceilings

Sector	Baseline 2018 Emissions (Mt CO2eq)	2023 Emissions (Mt CO2eq)	2030 Ceiling (Mt CO2eq)	Reduction to Target
Electricity	10.5	7.6	3	70%
Transport	12.2	11.8	6	48%
Buildings	8.6	6.7	5	33%
Industry	7	6.3	4	38%
Agriculture	23.4	22.6	17.25	26%
LULUCF	6.3	7.3	TBC	-

Carbon Budgets

- 2021-2025: 295 Mt CO2 eq. Average reduction of 4.8% per annum.
- 2026-2030: 200 Mt CO2 eq. Average reduction of 8.3% per annum.

Carbon Budget 2021-2025



Actual Emissions (2021, 2022 & 2023

■ Remaining Emissions Budget (2024 & 2025)



The Cost

2050 Net Zero

Globally \$9.2tn per annum until 2050 (McKinsey)

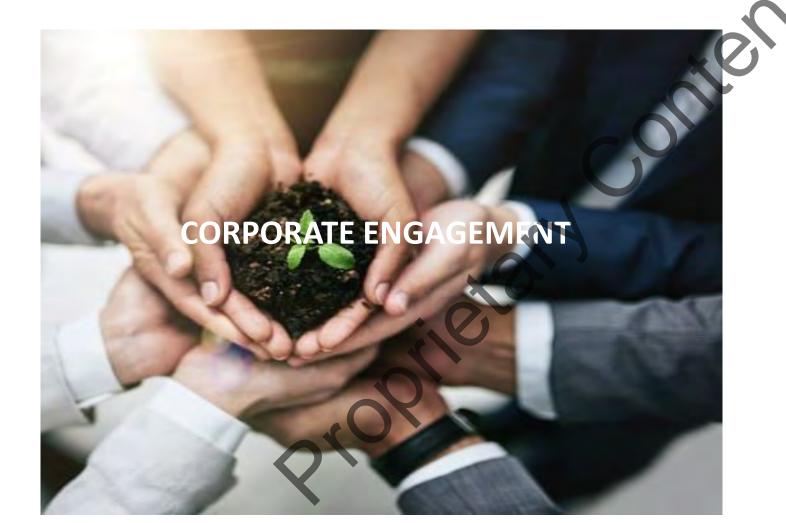
2030 EMT

ROI €20bn per annum until 2030 (IMF)









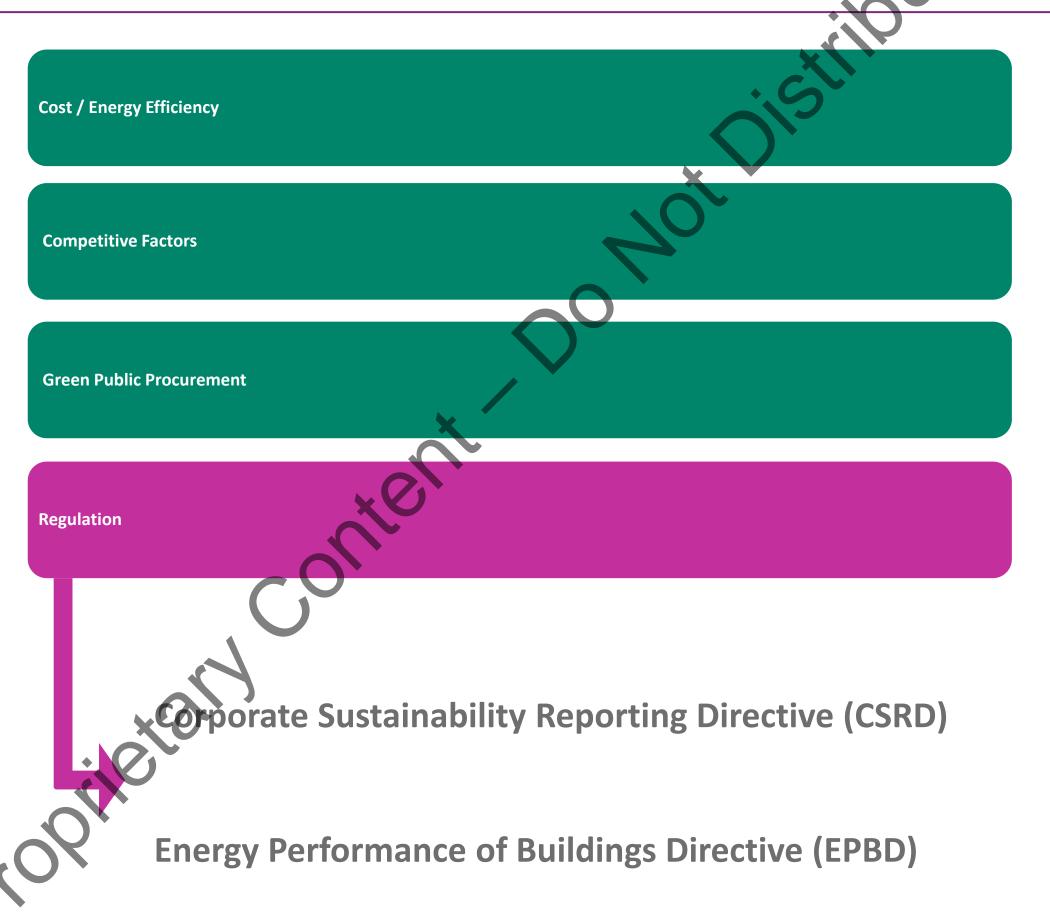








Sustainability Drivers for SMES





Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)

EU Directive (Jan 2024)

Expands the scope & enhances the rules governing the reporting of the environmental & social impacts of companies.

Double Materiality

Report the impact that ESG factors have on their business & how their business impacts society & the environment.

Scope

All companies that satisfy two of the following three criteria:

>250 Employees

>€50m Turnover

>€25m Balance Sheet





Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)

Purpose

To improve the energy efficiency of the European building stock with a view to achieving a fully decarbonise by 2050.

EU minimum energy performance for existing non-res buildings:

- by **2030**, energy performance of all existing non-res must be better than bottom 16% (as of 2020) and
- by **2033**, must be better than bottom 26% (as of 2020)

Irish Context: likely that all G, F, E & some D rated buildings will require updating.

Exemptions

- Agricultural & heritage buildings
- Protected structures



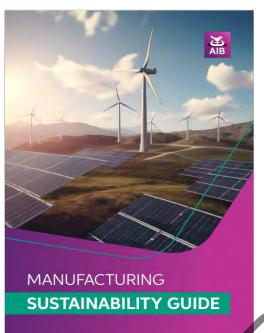


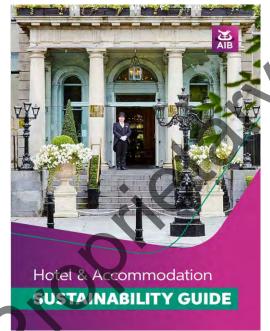


Education

Resources



















Expertise

Goodbody CLEARSTREAM

Ireland's leading independent sustainability and carbon management solution provider*. Supporting the measurement and implementation of best-in-class environmental and sustainable practice in operations, products and supply chains

Services supporting the SME segment include, but are not limited to:

- Carbon Assessment / Management
- Sustainability Strategy Development
- Product Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)
- Staff Training & Workshops

* Approved Service Provider - Local Enterprise Office / Enterprise Ireland



Debt Funding



GSLS Climate Action & Environmental Sustainability Loan

Supporting SMEs with long-term finance to invest in the climate action and environmental sustainability or the growth and resilience of their business.

Key features

- •Variable rate loan
- •Loan terms from seven years up to ten years
- •Amounts of €25,000 up to €3,000,000 are available
- •No security required on loans up to €500,000; loans above €500,000 may be secured
- •Loans are available up to 30 June 2026 or until the scheme has been fully subscribed

*The SBCI Variable Rate Loan interest rate is a variable interest rate which may change.



Equity Capital

FOR A SMARTER FUTURE

AIB Foresight SME Impact Fund

Leveraging Foresight's 38 years' experience investing in SMEs. The AIB Foresight SME Impact Fund invests into SMEs that support Ireland's transition to a low carbon economy.

The €75m fund provides investments of between €2 million and €5 million, with the ability to make larger or smaller investments, to SME companies across the island of Ireland.







Sustainability for SMEs – State Supports











Getting Started



- Green for Business consultant will assist drafting a 'greener policy'
- Energy Efficiency Grant up to €10,000 (75% of the cost of new equipment)



- Climate Action Voucher (2 x days consultancy max €1,800)
- Green Start (7 x days consultancy max €6,300)



- SEAI Energy Academy
- €2,000 Energy Audit Vouchers
- €50m Business Energy Upgrade Scheme max €120k



Thank You Distribute



John McGeown AIB Head of SME Sustainability

Email: john.j.mcgeown@aib.ie

Phone: 086- 0229-491





ESG

The evolving landscape of associated reporting standards







UHY Farrelly Dawe White

Audit, Tax, Advisory

- 4 offices
- Head office: Dundalk
- 75 + team members
- Full service suite
- Louth Business Awards: Best
 Professional Services
- Achieve a Better Future Together





Environmental

Social





Governance

Sustainability



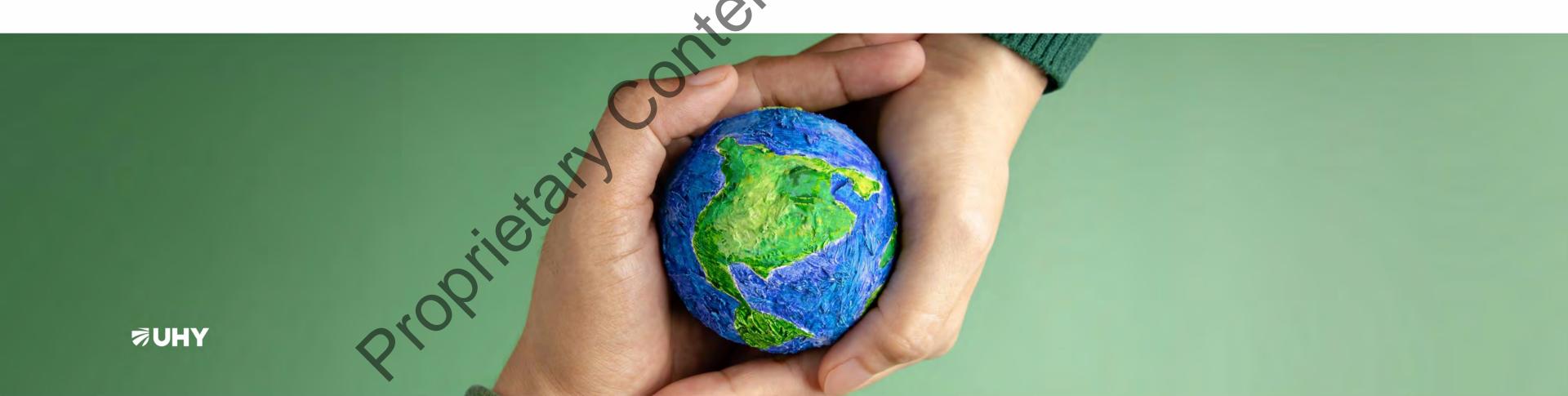




Sustainability

Sustainability in business refers to practices that ensure longterm environmental, social, and economic viability.

ESG is a **framework** used by investors, regulators, and businesses to **assess and measure** a company's **sustainability** and ethical **impact**. ESG provides specific **metrics** and **criteria** to evaluate how well a company manages its environmental, social, and governance responsibilities.







The Evolving Landscape of ESG Reporting

Regulation is evolving at a rapid pace

REGULATORY SHIFT TOWARD MANDATORY ESG DISCLOSURES:

CONSOLIDATION OF ESG STANDARDS

Sustainability Accounting
Standards Board (SASB) (2011)
provided sector-specific ESG

reporting guidelines.

EU introduces Non-Financial
Reporting Directive (NFRD) (2014)
requiring large firms to disclose ESG
information.

ISSB (International Sustainability
Standards Board, 2021)
aims to unify SASB, TCFD, and

other frameworks.

Task Force on Climate-Related
Financial Disclosures (TCFD) (2015)

emphasised climate risk transparency.

Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) (2023, EU)

Expands ESG reporting requirements to 50,000+ companies.

ESRS (European Sustainability Reporting Standards, 2023)

set specific ESG disclosure rules under the CSRD.



Who is in scope of CSRD?

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Large EU PIEs (Public Interest Entities)						
Other Large EU Companies		TYO.				
	C					
Certain Listed EU SMEs			Option to op	Option to opt out for 2 years		
	: 0					
Ultimate non-EU parent						

Is your company under the scope of CSRD?

An Irish incorporated company can be considered "large" if it meets any two of the following three criteria:

The amount of turnover of the company exceeds €50m

The balance sheet total of the company exceeds €25m

and / or

The average number of employees exceeds 250

Publishing Reporting in Ireland

- Include CSRD reporting in the directors' report
- File with the Companies Registration Office with the company's annual return
- Must appoint a statutory auditor to carry out assurance of sustainability reporting
- Reports must be digitally tagged

Non-Compliance and Penalties



Each director of an Irish company is under duty to ensure that the Irish CSRD reporting requirements are compiled with.

Failure to prepare a director's report in accordance with the law can result in up to 5 years imprisonment, with fines up to €50,000

What Must Be Reported?

A new dedicated section must be included in the director's report that discloses:

Information necessary to understand the company and its subsidiaries' impacts on sustainability matters

AND

Information necessary to understand how sustainability matters affect the company's development, performance and position



Methodology of CSRD Reporting

ESRS 1

Environmental: ESRS E1 - E5

ESRS 2

Social: ESRS S1 - S4

Governance: ESRS G1

ENVIRONMENTAL

An organisation's environmental impact and risk management practices

- Climate change and carbon emissions
- Air and water pollution
- Water consumption
- Biodiversity impacts
- Energy efficiency
- Waste management



E1: Climate



E22 Pollution



E3: Water & Marine Resources



E4: Biodiversity & Ecosystems



E5: The Circular Economy



SOCIAL

An organisation's relationship with its stakeholders

- Employee engagement
- Diversity & inclusion
- Human rights
- Labour conditions
- Community relations
- Customer satisfaction
- Data protection and privacy
- Product safety



S1: Own Workforce



S2: Workers in the Value Chain



S3: Affected Communities



S4: Consumers & End Users



GOVERNANCE

How a company is led and managed

- Board composition
- Audit committee structure
- Anti -bribery and anti- corruption measures
- Executive compensation
- Lobbying transparency
- Political engagement
- Whistleblower schemes



G1: Business Conduct



ESRS

The ESRS envisage up to approximately 1,400 reportable data points!

While many of these data points are mandatory for all in-scope companies, companies are required to undergo a 'double materiality assessment' to determine the extent to which other disclosures are required.



Double Materialty Assessment

FINANCIAL MATERIALITY
(OUTSIDE-IN)

How sustainability factors impact the company's financial performance, risks, and opportunities.

IMPACT MATERIALITY
(INSIDE-OUT)

How the company's activities impact the environment, people and society.



Example

An agricultural company might deplete land and the biodiversity of a field (inside-out impact), but this could directly affect the yield of the crops and consequently the financial position of the company (outside-in impact)



Value Chain Reporting

Companies must disclose sustainability information across:

UPSTREAM

DIRECT OPERATIONS

DOWNSTREAM

Suppliers, raw materials sourcing, production processes

Facilities, employees, company-owned processes

Customers,
distribution, product
use, disposal



Value Chain Reporting

- Three year transitional provision for Value
 Chain Reporting
- Companies can use:
 - Estimates, proxies, and assumptions based on industry benchmarks.

- During the transition period, companies can:
 - Provide qualitative descriptions instead of quantitative data.
 - Explain challenges in collecting value chain data.
 - Outline a plan to improve data collection over time.
- Direct (own operations) impacts must be reported without delay.
- Explain why they are relying on transitional provisions.
- Roadmap for improving data collection by the end of the transition period.



Quick Tips

Quick tips in identifying the company's impacts and potential impacts:

Assume E1 (Climate), S1 (Own Workforce) and G1 (Governance) are material

Map your business model including business relationships and suppliers

Consider material topics for your sector

Review with internal experts

Engage with external stakeholders affected by the business activities

Decide on material disclosures

Disclose your approach and reasoning

Greatest challenges for entities facing CSRD reporting requirements



Data, data, data...

Energy consumption by source
Gross Scope 1, 2, 3 and Total GHG
emissions
GHG removals and carbon credits
Tonnes of emissions of air pollutants
Tonnes of emissions to water
Tonnes of emissions of inorganic
pollutants

Number of workplace fatalities

Number and rate of work-related accidents

Number of days lost to injuries, accidents,
fatalities or illness

Unadjusted gender pay gap

Excessive CEO pay ratio
Incidents of discrimination

Tonnes of emissions of ozone-depleting substances

Total water recycled and reused

Total water

consumption

The Challenges

Capturing data across departments

Lack of consensus on terminology and definitions

Data not stored on accounting systems and software

Obtaining data from the value chain

Expense



Managing the Process

Who?

Those who collect the data e.g. HR, Health & Safety, Procurement

Those who report
e.g. financial reporting,
company secretary,
communications

Where?

Internal sources
e.g. energy meter readings,
staff records

External e.g. suppliers

How?

Cloud-based spreadsheets

Specialised ESG data platform:
Financial reporting system

Enterprise resources planning systems

How can UHY help?

UHY FDW has a dedicated ESG reporting and assurance team:

- Advising companies on ESG reporting standards.
- Developing **roadmaps** for ESG reporting which align with where the Board wants to be and by when.
- Performing gap assessments over current ESG reporting processes and controls versus best practice.
- Reviewing and assisting with the preparation of **ESG**disclosures both within the Annual Report and in separate ESG reports.
- Delivering external assurance over ESG and other nonfinancial metrics.



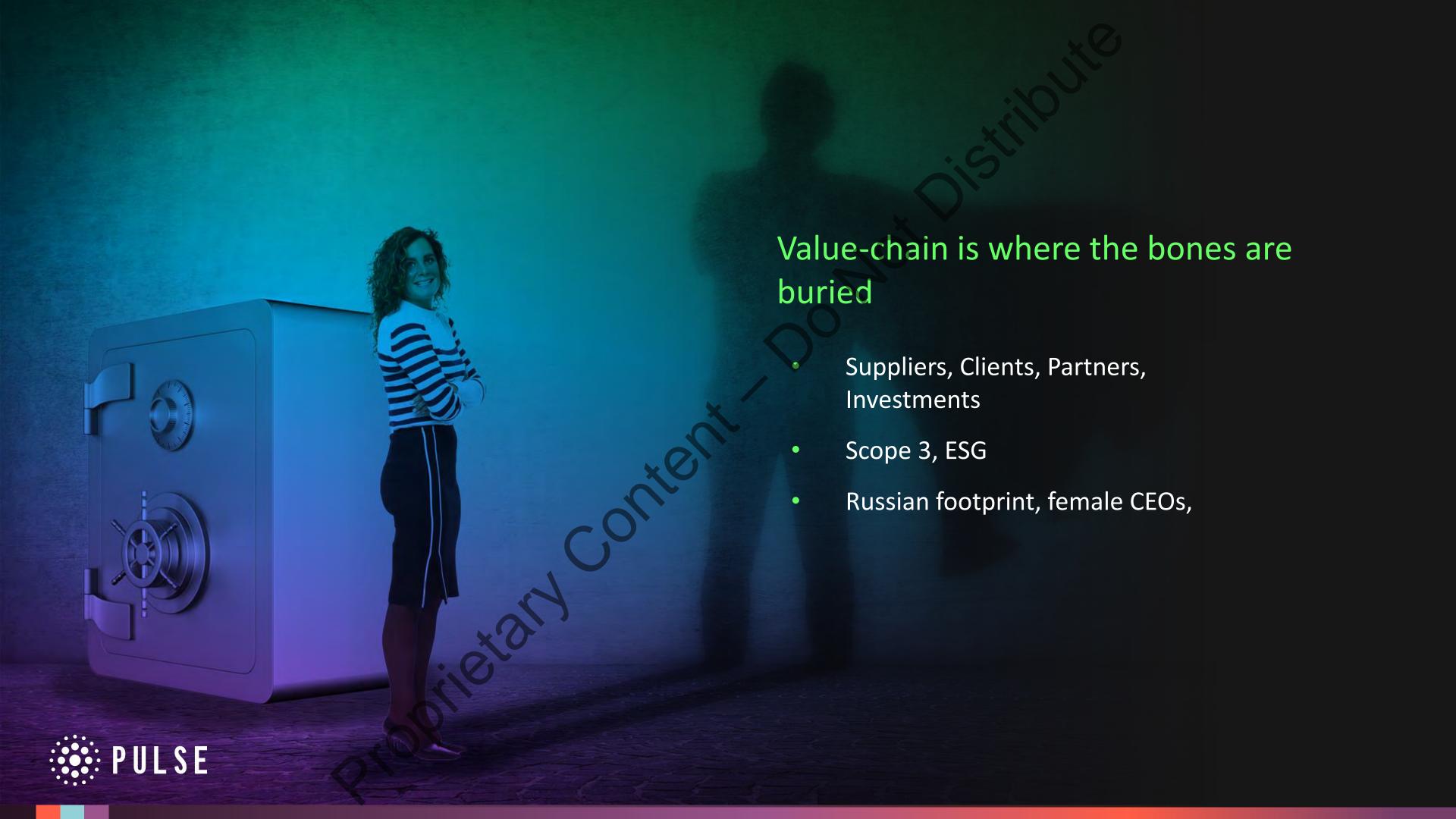






A One-Stop Shop for ESG Success

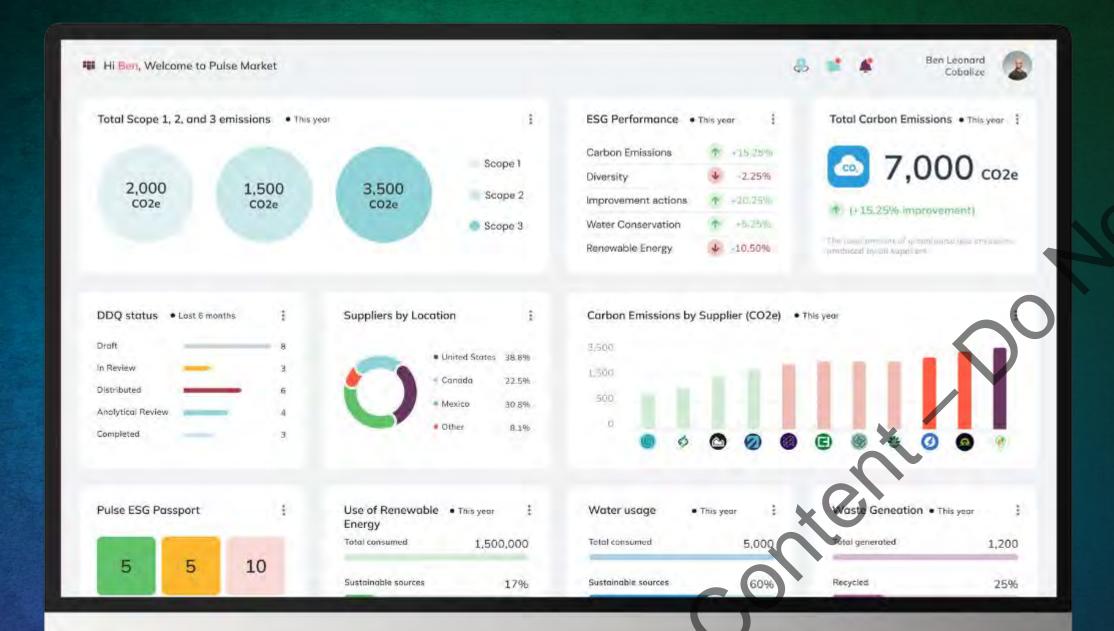
- Store once, use multiple times
- Regulations: CSRD, SECR, CSDDD, and More
- Meeting Client Demands: The New ESG Imperative
- B-Corp Certification: Simplifying the Process
- Value Chain Visibility: Understanding Your Impact











Introducing Pulse platform

- Robust, Secure
- CSRD, SECR, CSDDD, B-Corp, EcoVadis, OriginGreen...
- Dashboards, Reporting
- Value-chain engagement



Ready to start?

We've got the passion, the solutions and roadmap. All you need is the will and your data! Together we can we can make sustainability a reality and foster change. For further information on Pulse Market or request a demo:

Michael O'Shea, CEO

Email: michael.oshea@pulsemarket.com

Tel: +353 87 689-1086

View our website here www.pulsemarket.com



PANEL DISCUSSION Biologics

WuXi Biologics

Global Solution Provider









Coffee Break











ESG SE SUSTAINABILITY IN BUSINESS





NSAI

Standards that may be used to support ESG reporting and,

Current certification activities

Environmental Social, and Governance (ESG) practices, sustainability, and the evolving landscape 11th February 2025



James Stapleton - NSAI Standards Officer Mairéad Dennehy - Certification Operations Lead

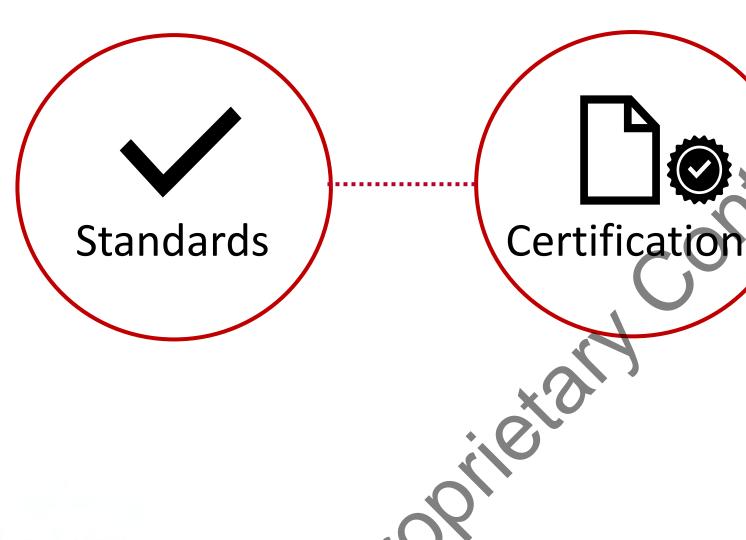
What will we cover today

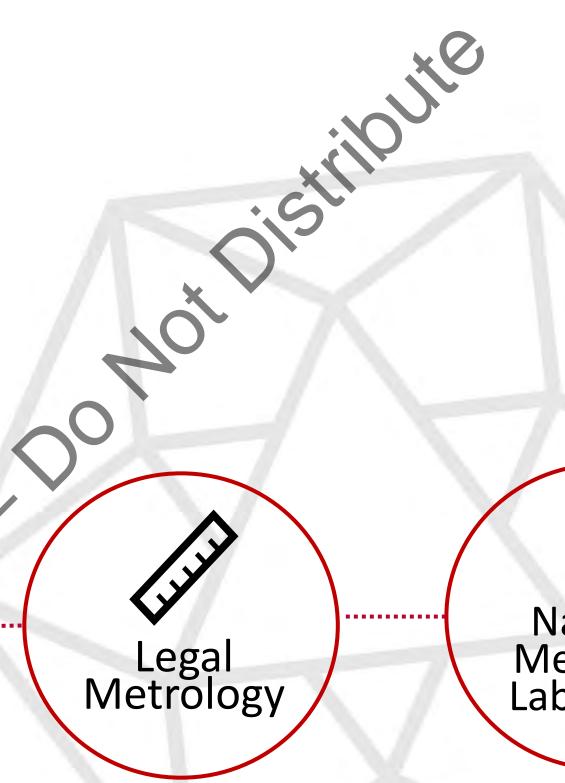
- Introduction to NSAI and Standard development
- CSRD and standards
- Accessing standards
- Certification



About NSAI

Four divisions









Standards - What are they?

- Standards are a way of communicating a kind of common language - in the form of a technical specification
- Document, established by consensus and approved by a recognised body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context.
 (CEN/CENELEC and ISO X



Why have Standards?

Standards can be used to:

- ✓ help businesses to comply with legal obligations,
- ✓ help to define and promote state of the art & best practices,
- ✓ increase the safety of products, processes and services,
- ✓ protection of consumer health,
- ✓ protection of the environment,
- ✓ promote the interoperability of products and services,
- ✓ Capture, promote and spread new technologies and knowledge throughout the marketplace.



Standards in everyday life.

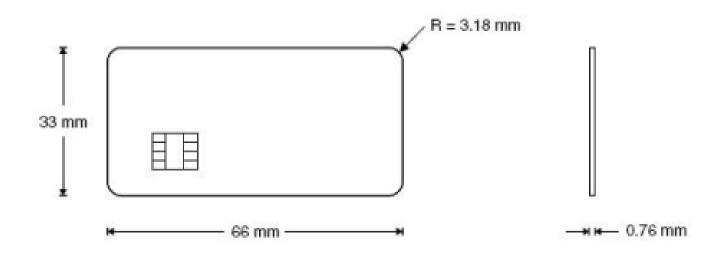
The importance of Standards can be more noticeable in their absence:





Standards in everyday life Credit/Debit Cards - 150/150

Credit/Debit Cards - ISO/IEC 7810:20







Care labels for clothes -3758:2012

Symbol	Tumble drying process
	tumble drying possible normal temperature; exhaust temperature max. 80 °C
0	tumble drying possible low temperature; exhaust temperature max. 60 °C
Ø	— do not tumble dry

Symbol	Ironing process
	 iron at maximum sole-plate temperature of 200 °C
	 iron at maximum sole-plate temperature of 150 °C
\overline{a}	iron at maximum sole-plate temperature of 110 °C without steam steam ironing may cause irreversible damage
X	— do not iron



Where do Standards come from?

National Standards Bodies (NSBs)

- NSAI (Ireland)
- DIN (Germany)
- AFNOR (France)
- SAC (China)
- BSI (UK)

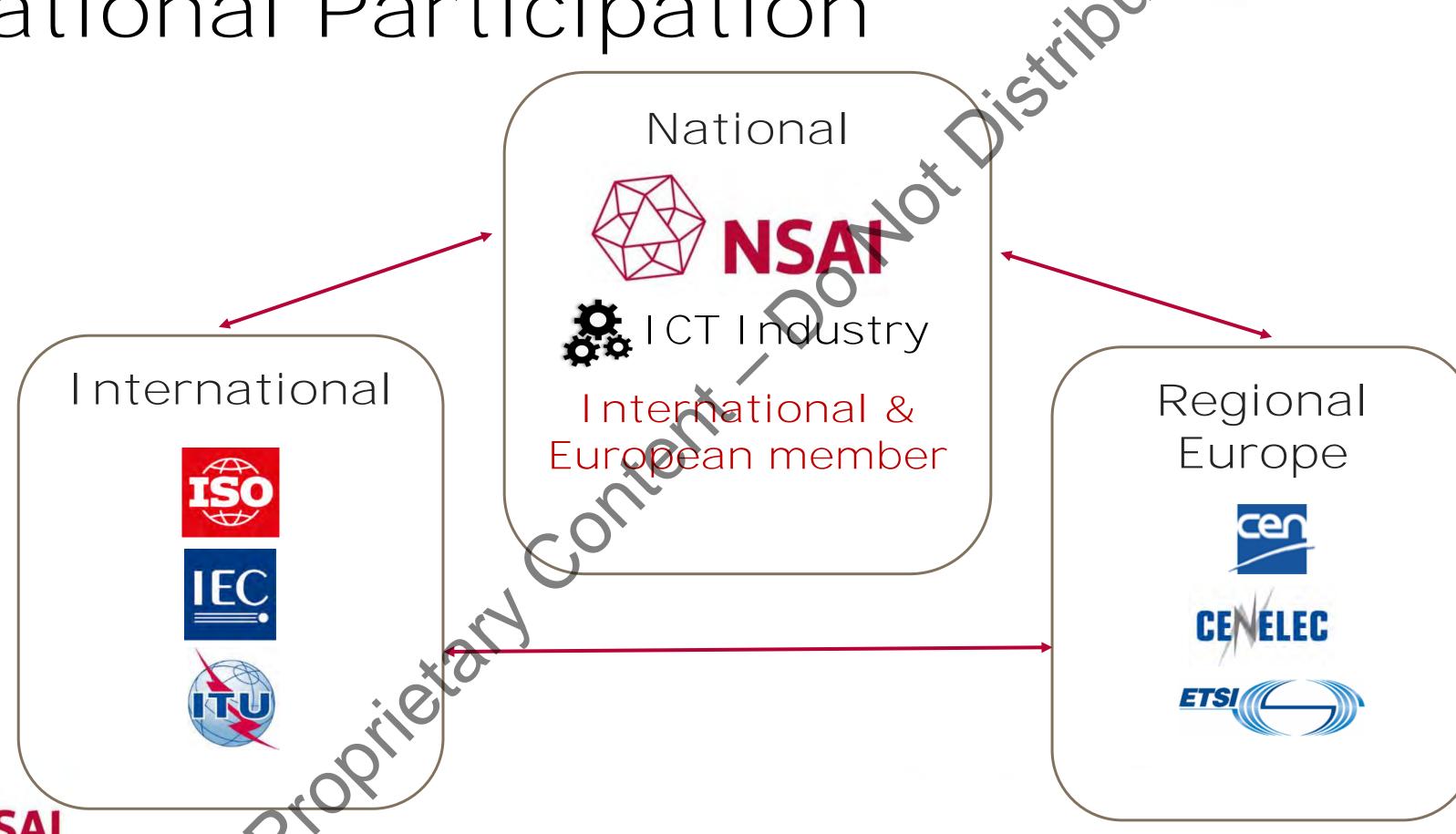
Regional Standards Bodies (Europe)

- CEN (European Committee for Standardisation)
- CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation)
- ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute)

International Standards Bodies

- ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation)
- IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission)
- ITU (International Telecommunications Union, a United Nations agency)

National Participation

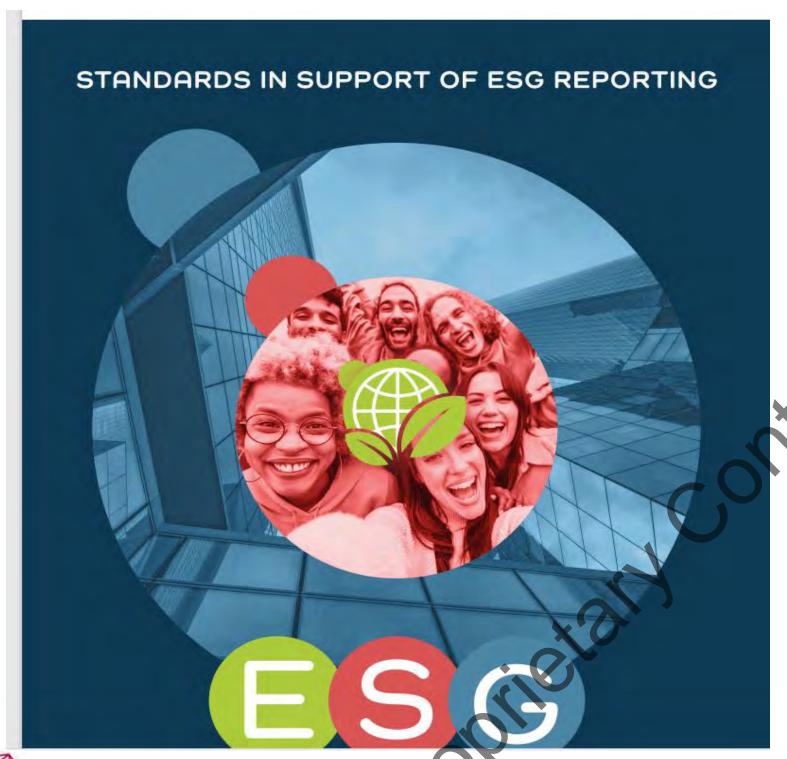


CSRD

CSRD makes reference to the possibility of using Standards approved by standards bodies such as ISO, IEC, CEN and CENELEC and having these verified by an external assurance provider.



Standards in support of ESG Reporting



https://www.cencenelec.eu/ media/CEN-CENELEC/News/Publications/ 2024/ESG/0049brochureesg.pdf



Benefits of using technical standards in CSRD reporting

- Reference to technical standards in European reporting
- Alignment with the European regulatory framework
- Leveraging the efforts made by organizations
- Robust and extensive sustainability coverage
- Qualitative and quantitative information
- Proven reliability
- Facilitating the activity of auditors/verifiers
- Recognition under the international reporting framework



ESG Standards

- Environmental I.S. EN ISO 14001
 Green House Gases I.S. EN ISO 14064-1
- Energy I.S. EN ISO 50001
- Circular economy ISO 59004/10/20



Social

- Social responsibility I.S. EN ISO 26000
 Occupational Health and safety I.S. ISO 45001





- Managing SDGs ISO 530010t Distribute
 (under development)
 Governance

 - Risk management 1.S. ISO 31000



How to search for Standards?

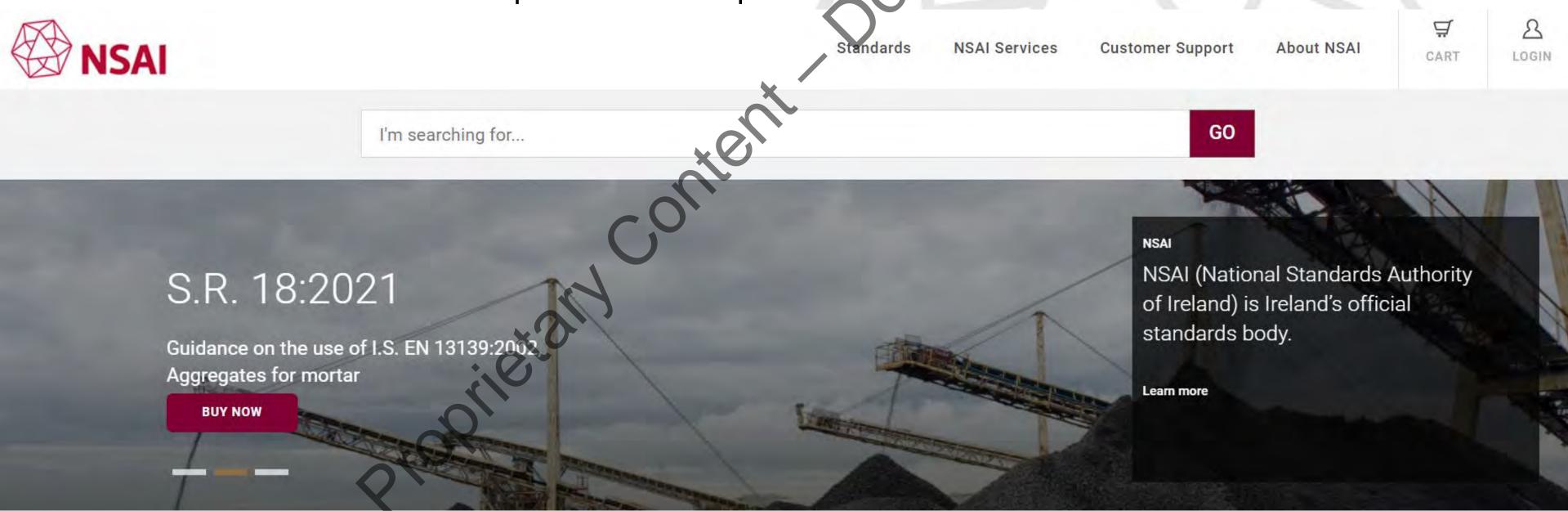
NSAI tools to research standards



Published standards catalogue

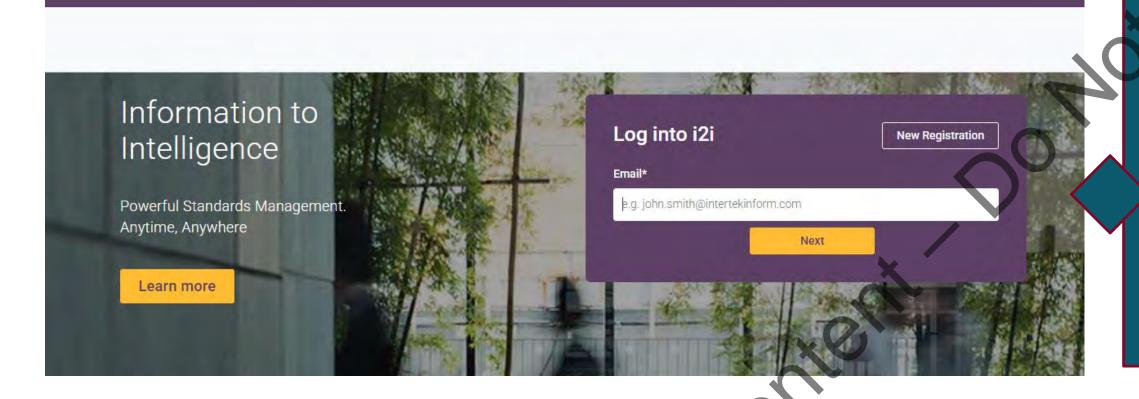
www.standards.ie

https://shop.standards.ie/





i2i Standards Management



i2i: Standards

Management platform:

Repository for critical business
content, that can be stored, retrieved,
updated in real time and relied on for
your compliance obligations

i2i Platform - adding value through;

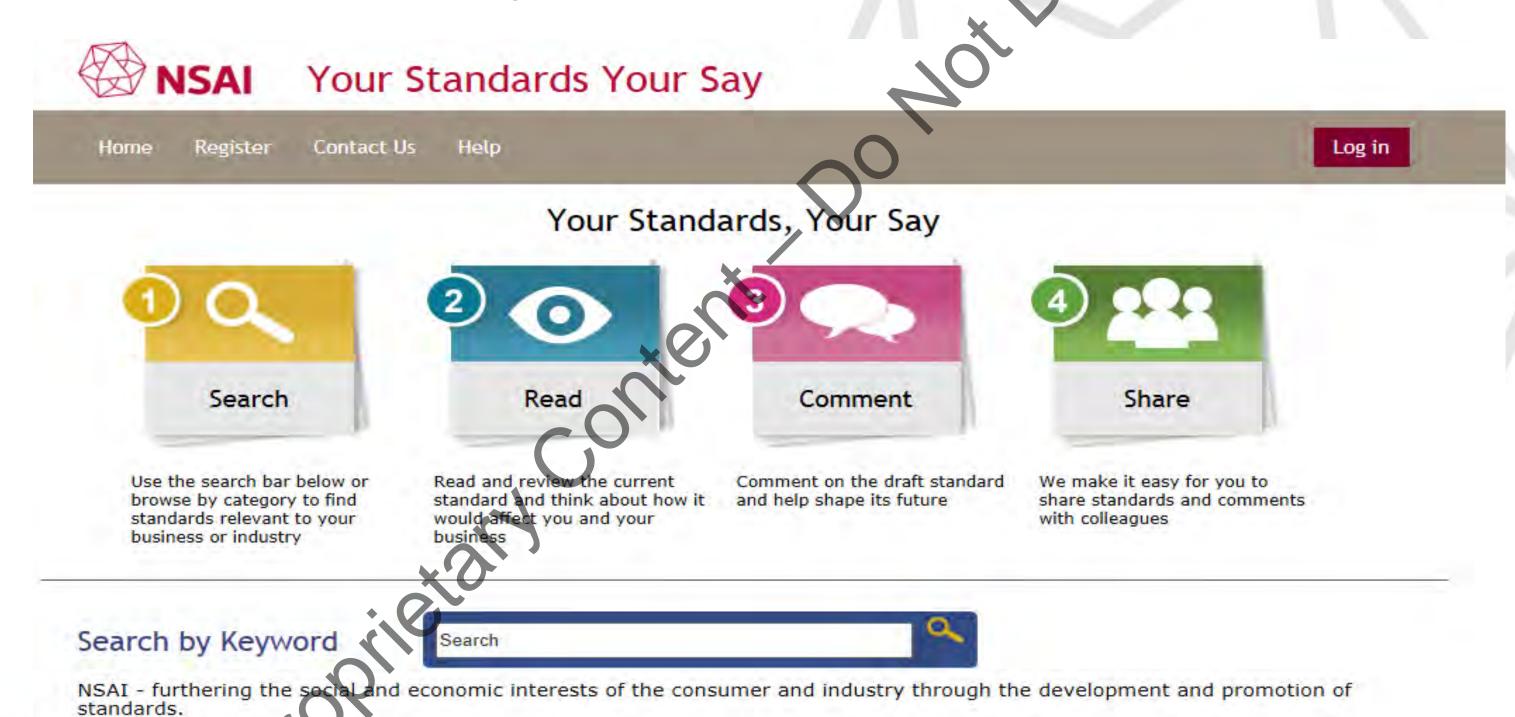
- Centralised approach to standards management,
- intelligent search and retrieval function,
- enabling organisational collaboration.





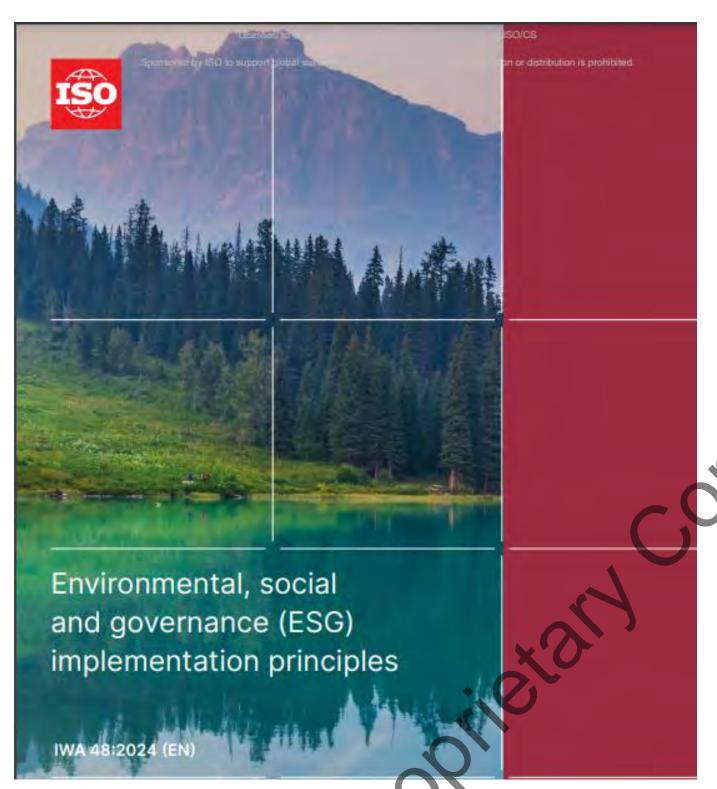
Draft standards portal

http://www.nsainep.ie/





Free ESG document (IWA 48:2024)



https://shop.standards.ie/e n-ie/standards/iwa-48-2024-

1384312 saig iso iso 350



Certification

- GHG Verification I.S EN ISO 14064-1:2019
- Environmental I.S. ENDSO 14001:2015
- Energy I.S. EN ISQ 50001:2018
- Occupational Health and safety I.S. ISO 45001: 2018



I.S. EN ISO 14064-1

(Greenhouse Gases - Part 1)

- Published 2006 (now at 2019 version)
- Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals
- Verification of GHG emissions for a specified time period - not an ongoing management system



I.S. EN ISO 14001

(Environmental Management System, EMS)

- First Published in 1996
- Framework for organisations to design & implement an EMS
- & implement an EMS
 Aim to continually improve environmental performance

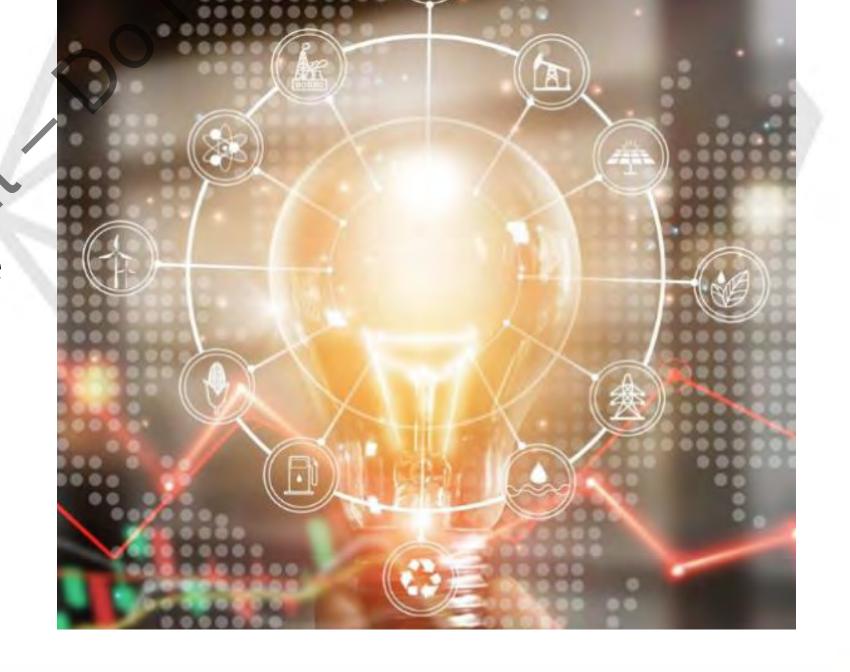




I.S. EN ISO 50001

(Energy Management System, EnMS)

- First published in 2011
- Framework for organisations to design & implement an EnMS
- Aim is to use energy more efficiently





I.S. ISO 45001

(Occupational Health & Safety Management System, SMS)

- First published in 2018 (replacement for OHSAS 18001)
- Framework for organisations to design & implement a SMS
- Prevention of Injury and III-Health
- Common clause structure (4-10)



Thank you.

WWW.NSAI.IE

ames.stapleton@nsai.. mairead.dennehy@nsai.te

Search "NSAI"









Simplify Sustainability & Gain a Competitive Advantage



Donal Quinn
Founder & CEO
ENSO





ESG VS SUSTAINABILITY

ESG

ESG refers to a more structures approach that uses specific criteria to evaluate performance in the areas of environment, social, and governance.

The three aspects of ESG help us to understand how well an organisation manages risks and opportunities that relate to sustainability issues.

Sustainability

Sustainability is a holistic approach that considers all aspects of a company's operations to understand long-term viability, taking into account environmental, social, and economic impacts.

The interactions and interconnections between these three areas are important to understanding your overall impact as an organisation.



Why is sustainability now crucial for business success? Proprietary Contents Proprietary





2023
CSRD entered into force

From 2025

All large and listed companies with 250+ employees

From 2028
All non-EU companies operating in EU



From 2024

All large and listed companies with 500+ employees

From 2026

All listed EU SMEs





2023
CSRD entered into force

These companies need data from their supply chains **NOW**

From 2025

All large and listed companies with 250+ employees

From 2028
All non-EU companies operating in EU



From 2024

All large and listed companies with 500+ employees



From 2026

All listed

EU SMEs



The EU has released the VSME ruidlines to help SMFe pro guidlines to help SMEs prepare for data requests





Green Public Procurement (GPP)





Consumer Sentiment & Awareness



The EU is cracking down on Greenwashing...
is your brand ready?



EU GREENWASHING REGULATIONS

Green Claims Directive

- Environmental actions required by law should not be communicated
- Include information about how consumers can appropriately use the product to decrease environmental impact
- Provide specific information which substantiates your claim
- Environmental labels are subject to the same requirements on transparency and accuracy

EU Greenwashing Ban

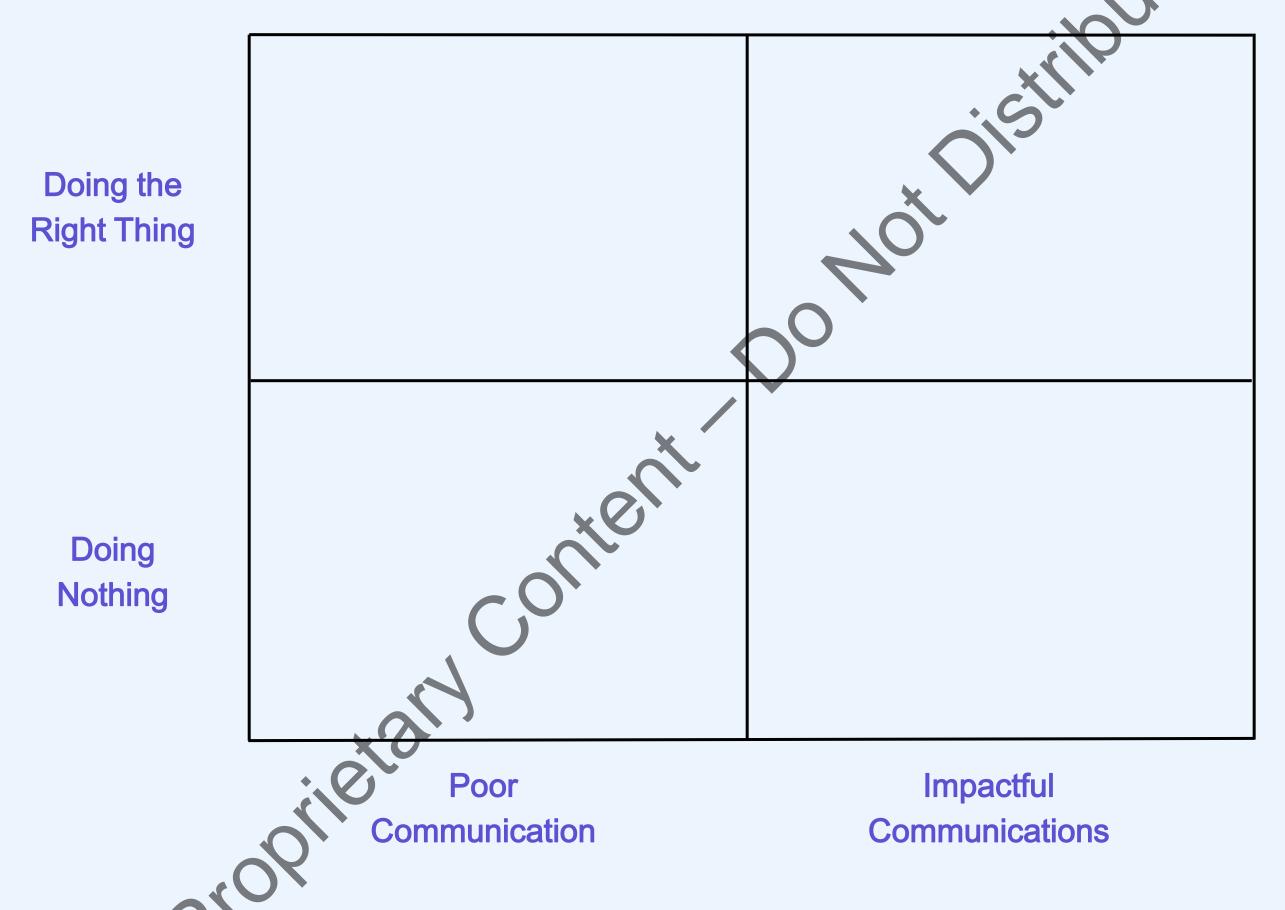
- The purpose of this is to further prohibit generic environmental claims including:
 - Carbon Neutral
 - Climate Neutral
 - Eco-Friendly
 - Carbon Friendly
- Companies will be required to disclose product lifespans and are prohibited from adding features that are designed to limit a product's durability and lifespan.
- Products cannot be marketed as repairable if they are not



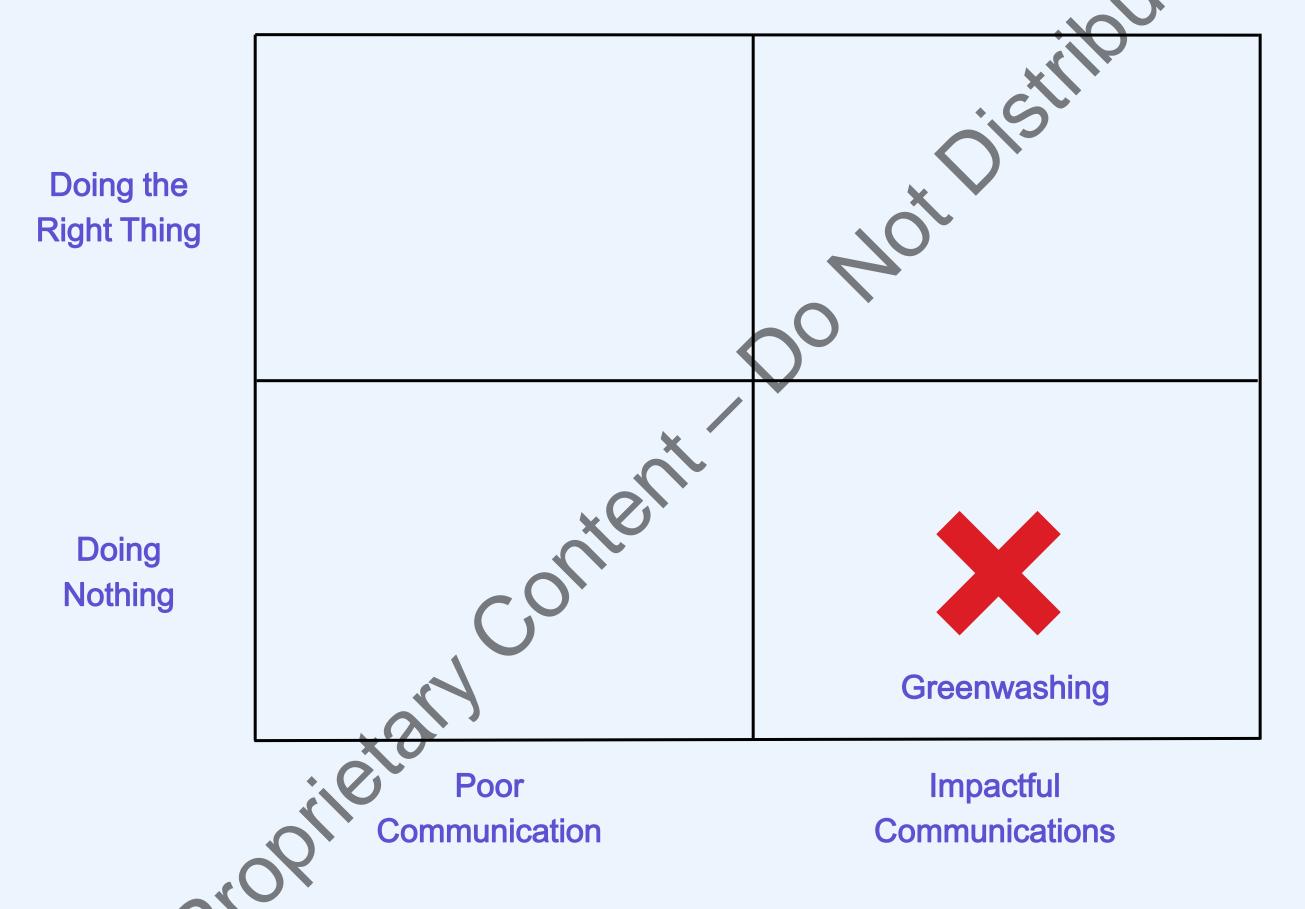
rlow do you communicate
sustainability to win more
business?

Propietary

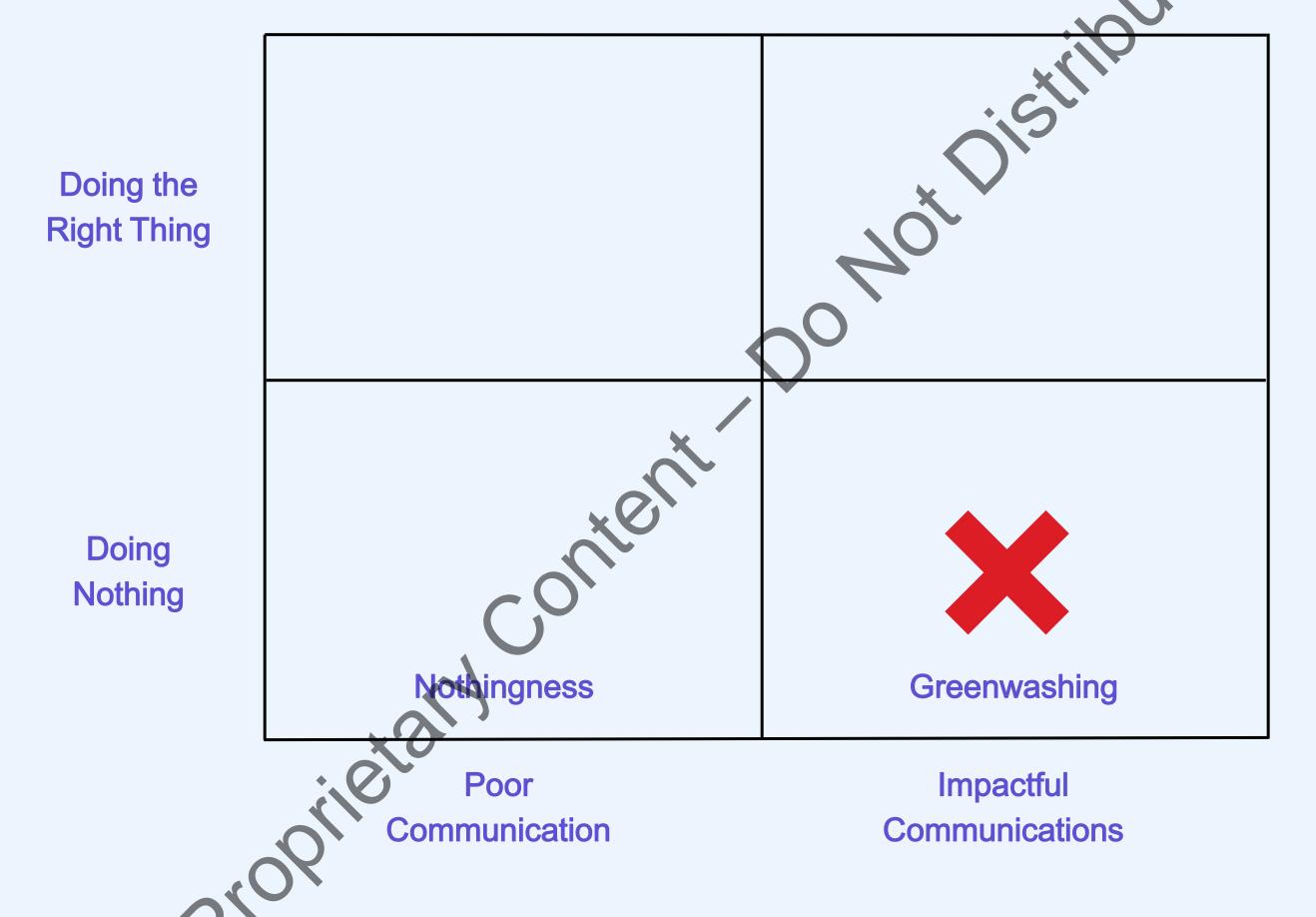














Doing the Right Thing

Wasted Opportunity

40'

Doing Nothing

Nothingness



Greenwashing

Poor Communication

Impactful Communications



Doing the Right Thing

Wasted Opportunity

Integrity

Doing Nothing

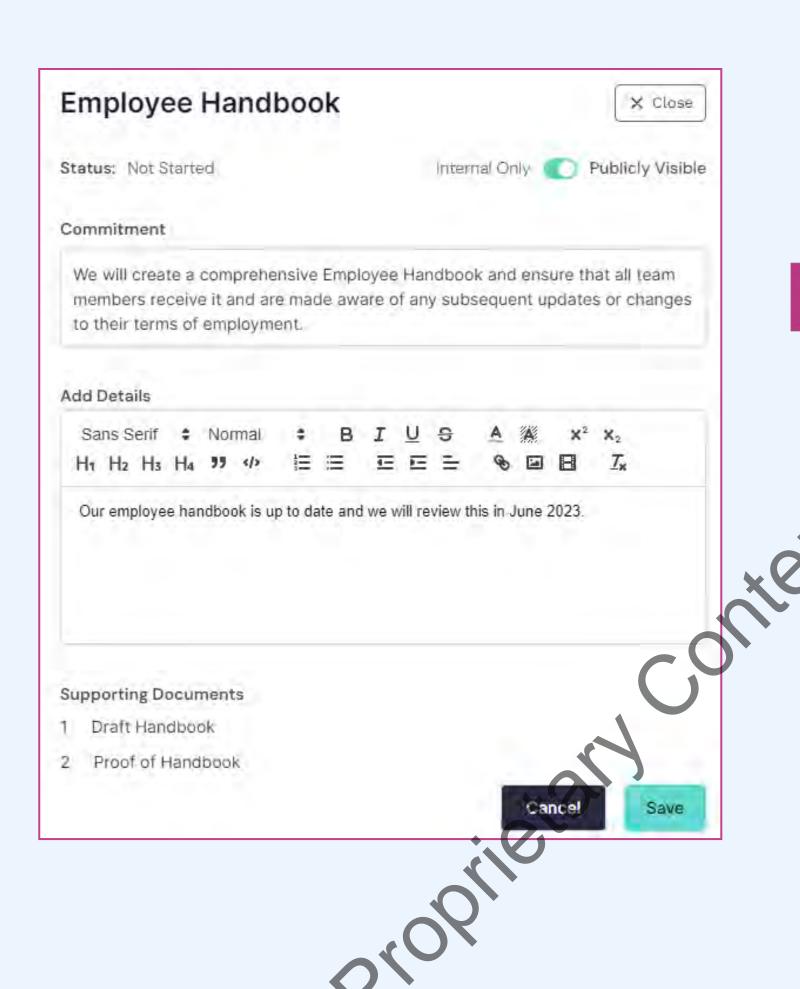
Nothingness



Poor Communication

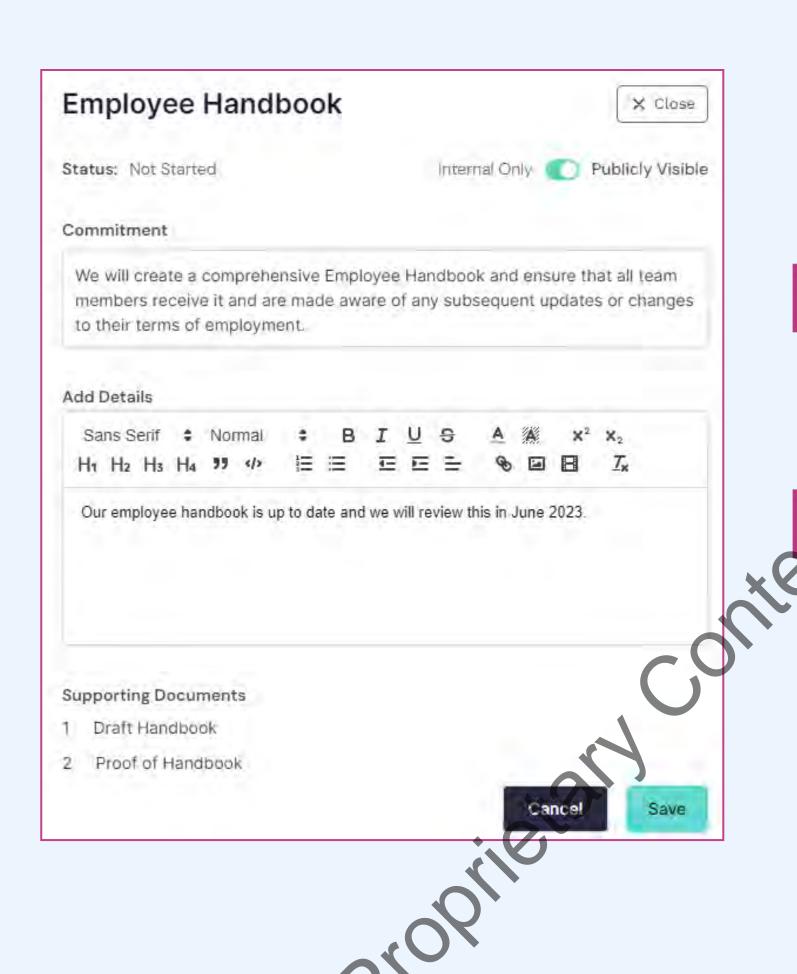
Impactful Communications





Be detailed & specific to communicate WHAT you are doing

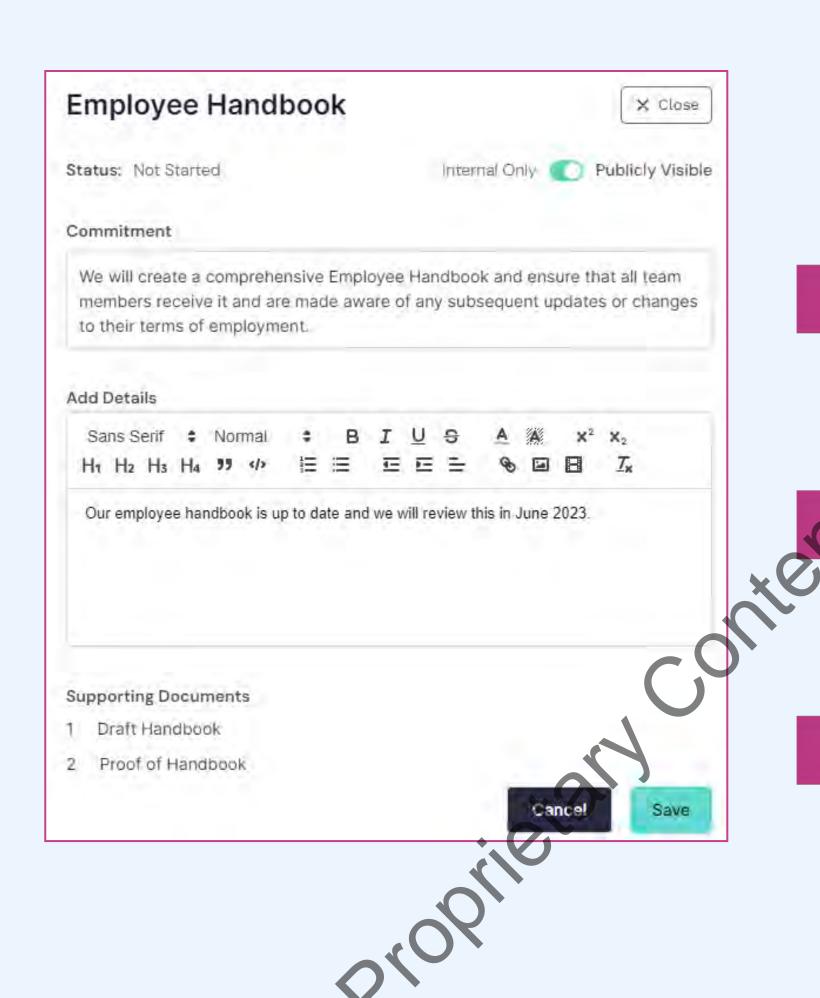




Be detailed & specific to communicate WHAT you are doing

Use additional detail to show HOW you are doing it





Be detailed & specific to communicate WHAT you are doing

Use additional detail to show HOW you are doing it

Include supporting documentation to PROVE you are doing it



How can you get started?

Proprietary Contests

Proprietary



SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORKS

BUSINESS IMPACT

Policies & Procedures

- Mission Statement
- Employee handbook
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Code of Ethics

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- Energy use
- Water use
- Waste
- Circular economy
- Biodiversity
- Digital emissions

TRADING IMPACT

Focus on your value chain

- Suppliers
- Sustainable sourcing
- Living wage
- Logistics

SOCIAL IMPACT

- Community engagement
- Supporting charities
- Health & Nutrition
- Wellbeing



GET STARTED & GAIN MOMENTUM



Host a team meeting: Start your sustainability journey off by engaging your whole team and getting everyone on board.



Start measuring: We can't act on what we don't know about. Start measuring your current resource use to understand where you are now.



Identify easy wins: Start with small wins that have an impact to show the progress you can make.



Don't worry about perfection: Sustainability is a journey - don't let an idea of perfection get in the way of making positive progress.



REMEMBER...

Simplify Sustainability & Communicate

Activities



Win tenders



Renew key contracts



Align with EU regulations



Raise investment



Attract & retain the best people





Simplifying
Sustainability
For Businesses

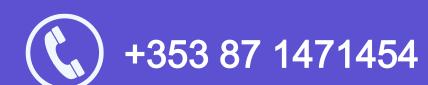


Q (OP)

ENSOIMPACT.COM

















ESG & SUSTAINABILITY IN BUSINESS

Thank you for attending

Scan to access more resources





